



ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NO: D00188/70132 NPF

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

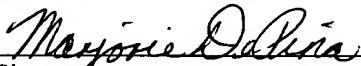
Applicant: D00188/70132  
Serial No: 10/040,936  
Filed: January 7, 2002  
For: IMPLANTABLE PROSTHESIS

Examiner:  
Art Unit: 3731

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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)**

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document is being placed in the United States mail with first-class postage attached, addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2002.

  
Signature

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Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**STATEMENT FILED PURSUANT TO THE DUTY OF  
DISCLOSURE UNDER 37 CFR §§1.56, 1.97 AND 1.98**

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the Applicant requests consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement.

**PART I: Compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97**

This Information Disclosure Statement has been filed within three months of the filing date of a National Application.

**PART II: Information Cited**

The Applicant hereby makes of record in the above-identified application the information listed on the attached form PTO-1449 (modified). The order of presentation of the references should not be construed as an indication of the importance of the references.

PART III: Explanation of Non-English Language References and Remarks Concerning Other Information Cited

The following is a concise explanation of the relevance of each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449 (modified):

The relevance of DE 298 17 682 may be determined by its figures and the English abstract obtained from the DERWENT World Patent Index database as follows:

Abstract (Basic):

NOVELTY – The webbing (10) made of mono fiber propylene has a rectangular main area (11) with a cut (12), positioned vertically to the lateral edge (14) of the main area (11) and welded at the end (19), for the insertion of one or more body parts, in particular the spermatic cord. The cut (12) is covered with a second piece of rectangular netting (13), which is fixed with one of its lateral edges (15) to the main area (11).

USE – The new type of hernia support netting is used by the surgeon in a hospital.

ADVANTAGE – The cover part and the welded end of the cut of the new design of a hernia support netting prevent the affected area from injuries and keep the netting safely in place.

DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING(S) – The drawing shows a top view of the netting.

webbing (10)

main area (11, 11')

cut (12)

cover (13)

lateral edges of main area (14, 16, 17, 18)

fixed edge of cover (15)

welded end of cut (19)

loose edge of cover (22)

PART IV: Remarks

Documents cited on the attached form PTO-1449 (modified) are enclosed unless otherwise indicated on the attached form PTO-1449 (modified). It is respectfully requested that:

1. The Examiner consider completely the cited information, along with any other information, in reaching a determination concerning the patentability of the present claims;

2. The enclosed form PTO-1449 be signed by the Examiner to evidence that the cited information has been fully considered by the Patent and Trademark Office during the examination of this application;

3. The citations for the information be printed on any patent which issues from this application.

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant makes no representation that a search has been performed, of the extent of any search performed, or that more relevant information does not exist.

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant makes no representation that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant makes no representation that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, in fact, prior art as defined by 35 U.S.C. §102.

Notwithstanding any statements by the Applicant, the Examiner is urged to form his own conclusion regarding the relevance of the cited information.

An early and favorable action is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

By:   
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Docket No. D00188/70132 NPF  
Dated: March 5, 2002